पाए जाने के आधार पर विभागों का आवंटन किया जाता है ।

(ख) और (ग) : अगले उच्च ग्रेड में पदोन्नति उपलब्ध एवं संभावित रिक्तियों की संख्या सहित विभिन्न पहलुओं पर निर्भर करती है और एक संवर्ग की दूसरे संवर्ग से तुलना नहीं की जा सकती है ।

Modifications in Defence pay package

2375. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir assured the Defence personnel that modifications in the pay package would be made;

(b) the nature of modifications proposed;

(c) the manner in which the new system is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) to (d) The Prime Minister was referring to the Pay Commission's recommendations, and he reiterated that Government's commitment to ensure that the Jawans and their families live in reasonable comfort and lead a life of dignity. The Prime Minister referred to the improvements effected in the salary and emoluments of the Jawans as well as in pension payments. He did not promise any further improvements.

Black-listing of Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.

2376. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CIA has black-listed Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd., for being a threat to human race; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) and (b) Media reports have appeared that Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI) is a company to which sale of American dual-use technology carries the threat of potential military application. Midhani has not been notified by the US administration for applicability of enhanced export control restrictions.

Recruitment in the Armed Forces

2377. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recruitment in the Indian Army is made on the basis of recruitable male population of a State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the present recruitable male population of Maharashtra and what is the actual intake from the State at present;

(d) whether any recruitment was made from Vidarbha region of the State during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) to (e) Recruitment in the Indian Army is made on the basis of the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) of a State/Union Territory. The RMP refers to those male population of the country in the age range of 16-25 years who satisfy the laid down qualitative requirements i.e. education, physical and medical standards. The national RMP is reckoned at 10 per cent of the total male population. The total annual vacancies are distributed to all the States/Union Territories as per

the RMP of the concerned State/Union Territory.

2. The present RMP of Maharashtra is 40,82,562, which is 9.3 per cent of the national RMP. The intake from the State of Maharashtra during the last three years is as under:—

Sl. No.	Recruiting year	Recruitment year	Percentage of intake
1.	1994-95	5532	7.83%
2.	1995-96	8198	9.37%
3.	1996-97	4262	7.43%

3. Recruitment from Vidarbha region of the State is being regularly made through the Branch Recruiting office, Nagpur. Details of recruitment made from Vidarbha region during the last three years are given below:—

S. No.	Recruiting year	Recruitment made
1.	1994-95	901
2.	1995-96	999
3.	1996-97	597

Escalation in the cost of ALH

2378. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of development of the ALH has gone up from Rs. 27.36 crores in 1976 to Rs. 390.65 crores today; and

(b) if so, how Government plan to control such cost overruns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) The sanction in 1976 of Rs. 27.36 crores was for the development of a single-engine Helocopter called Armed Light Helicopter (and not *Advanced* Light Helicopter). This Helicopter was specified to succeed the Cheetah and Chetak Helicopters and thus was restricted in its specification to that extent. This project was discontinued in view of new requirements from the customers. The project perspective was changed towards the development of a twin-engine multi-role Helicopter with several advanced technologies.

Against these revised perspective and specification the CCPA sanctioned Rs. 390.68 crores at April 1992 (FE) price level. The project assigned to HAL in 1984, is now nearing completion under provisions of this sanction.

(b) Consequent to technological advancements, modifications in pro-